

**RELATED TO ITEM #44**

The Department of Regional Planning is currently preparing a combined Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the General Plan Update and the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update. Generally, separate EIRs are prepared for the general plan and area plans. However, in 2009, the department combined both EIRs to avoid delaying the preparation and review of the area plan. In March 2011, the department released a preliminary draft of the area plan that includes the significant downzoning of private land in the Antelope Valley, in some cases as much as 1 unit per 40 acres.

In response to the department's overreaching recommendations, the community formed the Antelope Valley Area Plan Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC), which is a group of residents, business owners and community organizations seeking a more balanced approach to planning in the Antelope Valley. This group is working diligently to gather input from the Antelope Valley on the proposed area plan. However, their outreach efforts are hindered by the fact that the Antelope Valley Area Plan EIR is tied to the General Plan Update EIR. The Antelope Valley Area Plan Update needs its own EIR.

-M O R E -

**MOTION**

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

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I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Regional Planning to:

1. Prepare a separate EIR for the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update independent of the General Plan Update EIR;
2. Fund the separate EIR for the Antelope Valley Area Plan using the \$152,582 that remains in the existing Antelope Valley Area Plan contract. The remaining balance shall be funded by the Fifth Supervisorial District.

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